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Re-employment of the Director of Public Health

* 81 *Q*.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Health, Madras, has been re-employed after retirement and, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the previous Dean of the Madras Medical College and General Hospital has retired from service, and if so, why he was not re-employed?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) In the exigencies of Public Service, Dr. N. Parthasarathy has been re-employed as Director of Public Health for one year from 14th September 1959, the date of his retirement.

(*b*) Yes, Sir. Again, in the exigencies of Public Service, it was not warranted that the officer should be re-employed.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : May I know what 'exigencies of Public Service, means, as this phrase can cover a multitude of sins of omission and commission?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : To give one example, the gentleman referred to in clause (*b*) did not possess post-graduate qualifications. As such, he could not serve on the Board of Studies and some other official had to take his place.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Did the Government consider the suitability of the appointment of the previous Dean of the Madras Medical College to that post? At the time of his appointment, were the Government unaware of the deficiencies? Did reason dawn upon them subsequently on account of some engineering?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I thought it was 'Medical'. (Laughter).

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : It has been engineered.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sometimes, certain things are not quite patent on the surface. It was not known then and as immediate arrangements had to be made, he was appointed.

3-10 p.m. DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Dean does not take part in teaching and that, therefore, the question of post-graduate qualification does not arise? He is only a glorified 'Gumastha' as far as administrative matters are concerned.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Whether glorified or not, it is for the hon. Member to think as he likes. Here there is no question of teaching and he is on the Board of Studies as any other member of the Committee.

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DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Is not the Hon. the Minister for Health aware that these questions are decided by the University with reference to the general policy matters and that it is the University that decides what qualification should be possessed by the Deans and Professors?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I think so, Sir. (Laughter) I do not follow the exact implications of the question put and I cannot answer straightway.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Only one question in respect of the post of the Director of Public Health. What are the qualifications of the Director of Public Health and the qualifications of his assistants?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Qualifications are those that are required for performing the service, namely, that of the Director of Public Health and that is he must be an M.B.B.S with training in looking after public health services.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Leaving the ludicrous part of it aside, I would like to know whether his assistants are better qualified academically and the Director of Public Health has had no experience in the executive line while his Assistants have that.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The ludicrous part of it comes from that side and not from here. (Laughter.)

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I know what are the qualifications of those who serve immediately under the Director of Public Health? Are they not competent to take the place of the Director of Public Health?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir, they can.

Rural Housing Scheme

* 82 Q.—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Rural Housing Scheme has been undertaken by the Government during the Second Five-Year Plan;

(*b*) if so, the number of villages covered by this scheme;

(*c*) the amount, if any, allotted by the Central Government in this behalf; and

(*d*) whether any amount has been left unspent and, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir. The Village Housing Projects Scheme is implemented in selected villages in certain Community Development/National Extension Service Block areas.